Case 2:25-cv-00157-ES-JSA Document 7-13 Filed 01/22/25 Page 1 of 5 PageID: 325

Exhibit 5



PRESS RELEASE

Real Estate Investor Pleads Guilty to \$165M Mortgage Fraud Conspiracy

Thursday, December 14, 2023

For Immediate Release

Office of Public Affairs

A New York man pleaded guilty yesterday to engaging in an extensive multi-year conspiracy to fraudulently obtain over \$165 million in loans and fraudulently acquire multifamily and commercial properties.

According to court documents, between 2018 and 2020, Boruch "Barry" Drillman, 36, of New York, conspired with at least four others to deceive lenders into issuing multifamily and commercial mortgage loans. Drillman and his co-conspirators provided the lenders with fictitious documents, including purchase and sale contracts with inflated purchase prices. Drillman managed BRC Williamsburg Holdings LLC, which purchased multifamily property Williamsburg of Cincinnati in Cincinnati, Ohio, and Troy Technology Holdings LLC, which purchased commercial property Troy Technology Park in Troy, Michigan.

In March 2019, Williamsburg of Cincinnati was acquired for \$70 million. However, Drillman and his co-conspirators from Rhodium Capital Advisors utilized a stolen identity to present a lender and Fannie Mae with a purchase and sale contract for \$95.85 million and other fraudulent documents. On March 8, 2019, Madison Title Agency performed two closings, one for the true \$70 million sales price and another for the fraudulent \$95.85 million sales price presented to the lender.

In September 2020, Troy Technology Park was acquired for \$42.7 million. However, Drillman and his co-conspirators presented the lender with a fraudulent purchase and sale contract for

\$70 million. Additionally, to support the inflated purchase price, Drillman and his coconspirators submitted to the lender and appraiser a fraudulent letter of intent to purchase the property from another party for \$68.8 million and other fraudulent documents. To conceal the fraudulent nature of the transaction, Drillman and his co-conspirators arranged for a short-term \$30 million loan, which was used to make it appear that they had the funds needed to close on the loan. On Sept. 25, 2020, Riverside Abstract performed two closings, one for the true \$42.7 million sales price and another for the fraudulent \$70 million sales price presented to the lender.

Drillman pleaded guilty to one count of conspiracy to commit wire fraud affecting a financial institution. He is scheduled to be sentenced on April 16, 2024, and faces a maximum penalty of five years in prison. A federal district court judge will determine any sentence after considering the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and other statutory factors.

Acting Assistant Attorney General Nicole M. Argentieri of the Justice Department's Criminal Division, U.S. Attorney Philip R. Sellinger for the District of New Jersey, Inspector General Brian M. Tomney of the Federal Housing Finance Agency Office of Inspector General (FHFA-OIG), and Postal Inspector in Charge Eric Shen of the U.S. Postal Inspection Service's (USPIS) Criminal Investigations Group made the announcement.

The FHFA-OIG and USPIS are investigating the case.

Trial Attorneys Siji Moore of the Criminal Division's Fraud Section and Assistant U.S. Attorney Martha Nye for the District of New Jersey are prosecuting the case.

Updated December 14, 2023

Topics

FINANCIAL FRAUD

MORTGAGE FRAUD

Components

<u>Criminal Division</u> <u>Criminal - Criminal Fraud Section</u> <u>USAO - New Jersey</u>

Press Release Number: 23-1422

Related Content

PRESS RELEASE

Two Foreign Nationals Convicted of Multimillion-Dollar Scheme to Defraud Apple Inc. Out of 5,000 iPhones

A federal jury in the District of Columbia convicted two Chinese nationals today for participating in a sophisticated scheme in which they submitted more than 5,000 inauthentic phones to Apple Inc...

February 20, 2024

PRESS RELEASE

Two Individuals Convicted for \$11M COVID-19 Relief Fraud Scheme

A federal jury in Atlanta convicted a Georgia man and woman yesterday for their roles in an over \$11 million Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) fraud scheme.

February 16, 2024

PRESS RELEASE

Six Men Sentenced for Roles in \$20M COVID-19 Relief Fraud Ring

Six Texas men were sentenced today for their roles in a conspiracy to fraudulently obtain more than \$20 million in forgivable Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loans that the Small Business...

February 12, 2024

Office of Public Affairs

U.S. Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington DC 20530

Office of Public Affairs Direct Line 202-514-2007

Department of Justice Main Switchboard 202-514-2000